



Council for Cadet Rifle Shooting

Patron: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

President: General the Lord Houghton of Richmond GCB CBE DL

Chairman: Brigadier MP Lowe MBE

General Secretary: Brigadier (Retd) MN Pountain CBE

CCRS 8000

19 March 2021

See distribution

Dear All

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS 2021 (UKCRT, BCRT & GBU19)

References:

- A. CCRS 8020 dated 10 Dec 20 (UKCRT Squad).
- B. CCRS 8002 dated 08 Jan 21 (BCRT Squad).
- C. CCRS 8017 dated 12 Jan 21 (GBU19 Squad).
- D. CCRS 8000A Update to all Cadet Force Headquarters 17 Feb 21.
- E. Update to CCRS website 19 Jan 21 and 22 Feb 21.

PURPOSE

1. This letter is to provide an update on International Teams 2021 planning to all Squad members, Parents and Shooting Officers, with thanks to everyone concerned as we continue to work through the challenges and uncertainties of Covid, and with positivity and hope of a brighter future ahead. Planning status recognises a number of factors:

- The commitment and desire by all parties to field UKCT, BCRT and GBU19 teams in worthy and worthwhile competitions this year. This includes the reflection by various parents and schools that physical activity and extra/co-curricular activity is as important to squad members for their wellbeing and mental health as academic development;
- The need to keep cadets and adult volunteers safe;
- UK Government's and devolved nation's policy;
- MoD and Cadet Force policy.

ASSESSMENT

2. Our current assessment is that all three teams should be able to compete as teams this year, with the caveat that much will depend on national and Cadet Forces Covid-recovery roadmaps.

BACKGROUND

UK Government, the Devolved Nations' Policy, and the Channel Islands

3. The UK Government announced its roadmap for Covid recovery in England in late February, based on striking a balance between economic recovery and keeping people safe, while protecting the NHS, as did the First Minister of Wales. The First Ministers of Northern Ireland and Scotland also announced roadmaps on 1 and 15 March respectively. The Channel Islands have their roadmaps.

A charitable incorporated organisation; registered charity no. 1151650

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Cadet Force Policy

4. The Cadet Forces as UK youth organisations look for policy guidance to the National Youth Agency (NYA) and the MoD. The roadmap for all Cadet Forces generally follows a similar stepped approach to training activity from local through regional to national, conditions-dependent, and with a priority to getting adult volunteers re-trained and qualified over the next 2-3 months. Indicators are that residential training, subject to restrictions, may be permissible from 17 May.

PLANNING STATUS

5. What does this all mean for our squads and teams?

GBU19

6. We have now received an official invitation from Chairman Scottish Target Shooting (STS) for GBU19 to compete in the Scottish Open and on behalf of the International Committee, I have formally accepted. While, as with elsewhere, much remains to be seen in respect of how the situation develops, STS remains committed to running this event, if at all possible.

7. Having now received the detailed programme of events, there are some important details we need to highlight as an amendment to Reference C, as well as providing additional detail:

a. **Training weekend.** Given that we had notified 15/16 May as our suggested training weekend, but that lies outside the national and Cadet Force policy guidelines, we now propose to amend that to the following weekend, assembling pm Friday 21 May, dispersing Sunday 23 May. We have provisionally booked feeding and accommodation, as well as targets at Bisley. The training weekend will be supported by the GBU19 Team Director (Lt Col Mark Geernaert-Davies), Wg Cdr Andy Warman (as CRO), this year's Commandant and Adjutant, and CCRS's Competitions Officer (Lulu Watson). **All squad members are requested to confirm availability for 21-23 May please.** NOTE: In the event that policy does not allow us to run this weekend, the plan will be for the team to travel to Scotland and compete without, regrettably, having had the opportunity to train in advance together.

b. **Scottish Open Championships.**

1) While we had originally thought that competition would support travelling back on Sunday, the team is required to shoot Sunday am (Grand Aggregate qualifying), by which time it will be too late to depart for Bisley (approximately 8-hour road trip). The dates have therefore had to be adjusted:

- a) Assemble Derby Lodge pm Tuesday **15 June** (subject to discussion with individuals)
- b) Depart am Wednesday 16 June
- c) Range recce and orientation Thursday 17 June
- d) Competition Friday 18 – midday Sunday 20 June (note: there is a Championships dinner on the Saturday evening)
- e) Return and disperse Monday **21 June**.

NOTE: 15 and 21 June represent a change from the original dates notified of 16-20 June.

2) The main team match is the Lawrence Cup. **NOTE: This is for a team of 12, so all squad members are now selected to be the GBU19 team members. The International Committee congratulates Elodie Edwards (Derbyshire ACF) and Abigail Gibbs (Sedbergh School) on being selected as non-travelling Reserves.**

3) Accommodation has been provisionally booked, and ammunition will be available in Scotland, as will an armoury.

c. **Administration.** Detailed administrative instructions will follow in due course, which will include details on Covid-safe measures. Team members and adult volunteers should expect to prove Covid-negative testing immediately prior to both the training and main event. Equally, we aim to ensure that Derby Lodge is Covid-safe and, for example, we are putting flow-test procedures in place, in addition to existing measures in respect of cleaning and social distancing. This detail will be articulated more fully in the Admin Instruction, but for now, **GBU19 team members (12 + 2 Reserves) are requested to confirm responses to the points highlighted above please, using Annex A.**

UKCRT and BCRT

8. Further to References A and B, and following relevant advice and due consultation and consideration, including the formal cancellation of public examinations, we have identified the training weekend as 25-27 June. This has the advantage of being after the date by when recommendations for public exam grades are submitted; being in late June, the environment should be more permissive; and ranges, accommodation and feeding are available. In outline, the programme for a squaddened weekend is developing as follows:

- pm Friday 25 June: zero and 300
- Saturday 26 June: Short range.
- Sunday 27 June am: Short range.

Squad members are requested to confirm availability for 25-27 June using Annex A.

9. Jersey Rifle Association (JRA) Summer Meeting. Planning is advanced for both UKCRT and BCRT teams, with ferries and accommodation provisionally booked. No change to previously notified dates.

CONCLUSION

10. In sum, CCRS remains committed to fielding three international teams in 2021, and planning has been updated to reflect latest Government and Cadet Force policy, and to provide as much clarity as we can at this stage, recognising that things could still change. On behalf of CCRS's trustees and the International Committee, we shall do our best to ensure that our three teams have the opportunity to earn their Colours this year, if at all possible, but please recognise that while we are planning as best we can on the basis of our common aspiration, all could change yet.

11. As an aside, I have been asked by the International Committee to encourage UKCRT and BCRT squad members in particular to participate as individuals in one or more events, as this will help you (I regret no CCRS sponsorship is available). These include:

- 29-30 May - English XX Meeting
- 5-6 June - Birmingham Bisley
- 12-13 June - Inter-Counties (if selected by your County)
- 3-4 July - British Commonwealth
- TBC - Army Target Shooting Club Open Meeting ('Army Open')

12. All members of the UKCRT and BCRT squads are required to enter the NRA Imperial Meeting (16-24 July). We shall publish details on entry and sponsorship for the NRA Imperial in due course (please note that there will be two Cadet team matches in the Imperial programme on 16 and 21 July respectively).

13. I hope that this finds everyone well! We shall, of course, do our best to keep all informed in as timely a way as possible, including on our website. Please direct any questions in the first instance to me or to Mrs Gina Ansell at gensec@ccrs.org.uk and Admin.Officer@ccrs.org.uk.

Best regards

Mark Pountain

(Original Signed)

MN Pountain

General Secretary

Attachments:

A. International Squads 2021 Return.

Distribution:

External:

Action:

All CCF, SCC, ACF and RAFAC Shooting Officers

All UKCRT, BCRT and GBU19 Squad members and parents

Team Commandants and Adjutants

Information:

HQ MS-SC (for SO Shooting)

HQ Army RC (Cadet Branch for ACOS)

HQ RAFAC (for Wg Cdrs McNeill, Warman)

Internal:

Action:

CCRS International Committee (Director International, Team Directors)

General Secretary

Admin Officer

Information:

CCRS Trustees

CCRS Shooting Manager

CCRS Competitions Office